

Tank Waste Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Time: 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Room 142, Federal Building, Richland, Washington

Call-in Line: Via the Hanford Operator (509-376-7411 or 800-664-0771 – press “0” at the Octel prompt and ask the Operator for the Hanford Advisory Board Tank Waste Committee call

8:30 am **Welcome, Introductions, and Committee Business**

- Agenda review and Goals of the Meeting – Leon Swenson, chair
- Finalize meeting summary from January joint Tank Waste and Budgets & Contracts Committee meeting

8:45 pm **February Board Meeting Follow-Up**

Purpose of Agenda Item: Review and discussion of issues and direction from the February 7-8 Hanford Advisory Board meeting

- Recap of key issues and direction from full Board meeting (10 min.) – Leon Swenson and Doug Huston
- Committee discussion (20 min.)

9:15 am **“Getting Vit.” – River Protection Project Risks**

Workplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: Technical and programmatic risks must be appropriately dealt with in project design/implementation

Essential Policy Question: Identify potential showstoppers that would keep project from working

Issue Managers: Harold Heacock, Paige Knight, Todd Martin, and Gordon Rogers

Issue manager assignment

- Identify what agency authorizations are required to begin construction (DOE, Ecology, WDOH)
- Briefly summarize the schedule and/or technical challenges related to obtaining these authorizations
- Identify what risks are associated with the current schedule and phased permitting approaches

Purpose of Agenda Item: To discuss the regulatory decisions and authorizations needed to proceed with construction of the vitrification plant

- Issue manager framing of issues (10 min.) - Harold Heacock (requested)
- Agency overviews of authorizations needed and potential challenges in obtaining authorizations under the current schedule
 - DOE-ORP (10 min.) - TBD
 - Ecology (10 min.) – Suzanne Dahl
 - Washington State Department of Health (10 min.) – TBD

- Committee discussion focused on assessment of risks to keeping the project on track to obtain timely authorizations and identification of next steps and potential committee and/or Board products related to this issue (35 min.)

10:30 am **Break**

10:45 am **Recovery Plan – River Protection Project Baseline**

Workplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: Baseline must be consistent with values of full TPA (and other) compliance and protection of the environment

Essential Policy Question: Is the current BNI baseline realistic and achievable?

Issue Managers: Paige Knight, Jeff Luke

Issue manager assignment

- Outline relationship of recovery plan to the current baseline and TPA milestones

Purpose of Agenda Item: To provide the committee with an overview of the recovery plan and its anticipated impact on achieving work under the current baseline and TPA commitments

- Issue manager framing of issues (10 min.) – Jeff Luke (requested)
- Overview of the recovery plan (10 min.) – Steve Wiegman, Mary Burandt, and Jim Rasmussen, DOE-ORP
- Regulatory review and response to recovery plan (10 min.) – Ecology Roger Stanley, Suzanne Dahl
- Committee discussion focused on assessment how recovery plan supports achievement of baseline work and TPA milestones and potential committee next steps on this issue (15 min.)

11:30 am **Bechtel National Project Meetings – River Protection Project Risks**

Workplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: Technical and programmatic risks must be appropriately dealt with in project design/implementation

Essential Policy Question: Identify potential showstoppers that would keep project from working

Issue Managers: Harold Heacock, Paige Knight, Todd Martin, and Gordon Rogers

Issue manager assignment

- Identify if/how continued committee attendance/participation in these meetings will support priority committee workplan items.

Purpose of Agenda Item: To assess the value of attending/participating in monthly contractor project meetings

- Framing of issues and feedback from January 31 meeting (10 min.) – Pam Brown (requested) and Leon Swenson (requested)

- Committee discussion focused on assessment of the value of committee attendance/participation in contractor meetings (20 min.)

12:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00 pm **Balance of Mission – RPP Baseline**

Workplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: Baseline must be consistent with values of full TPA (and other) compliance and protection of the environment

Essential Policy Question: Scope out questions and issues related to balance of mission concept

Issue Manager: Doug Huston

Issue manager assignment

- Identify potential implications of a change in approach to retrieving, treating, and disposing of Hanford tank waste related to DOE-HQ plan to identify alternatives to vitrifying 75% of DOE's high-level waste
- Conduct initial evaluation of how these implications compare with HAB values regarding tank waste treatment and tank farms cleanup

Purpose of Agenda Item: To discuss proposals and implications of altering the current TPA approach to vitrify all of the waste through the vitrification plant, including assessment of how these proposals compare with HAB values for tank waste treatment and tank farms cleanup

- Issue manager framing of issues (10 min.) – Doug Huston (requested)
- Overview of DOE proposals (20 min) – Steve Wiegman and Bill Hewitt, DOE-ORP (TBD)
 - Overview of agency exploration of vitrifying more waste in the initial plant
 - Identification of possible alternate technologies and approaches for the remaining tank waste that may not be vitrified
- Regulatory perspectives on changing the current approach (10 min.) – Ecology (TBD)
- Committee discussion focused on assessment of a change in approach as it compares with HAB values, including past advice and past TPA commitments, and on potential committee/Board products related to this issue (50 min.)

2:30 pm **Tank Closure**

Workplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: Successful tank closure is (will be) defined by regulatory requirements

Essential Policy Question: What steps can be taken for consideration of the operational closure concept?

Issue Manager: Pam Brown

Issue manager assignment

- Outline what is being proposed for interim and final closure of tanks at Hanford, including recent statements at the State of the Site meetings regarding the possibility of closing tanks in place as landfill-type units
- Conduct initial evaluation of how these proposals compare with HAB values for tank farm cleanup
- Identify what is being done at other DOE sites and what “lessons learned” are applicable to the issues in the Hanford tank farms

Purpose of Agenda Item: *To assess the evolving approaches for defining and achieving interim/little “c” closure and final/big “C” closure*

- Issue manager framing of issues, including overview of tank closure activities at other DOE sites (10 min.) – Pam Brown (requested)
- Overview of plans and proposals for interim/little “c” closure of Hanford tanks (10 min.) – Steve Wiegman and Joe Cruz, DOE-ORP
- Regulatory perspectives on tank closure (10 min.) – Ecology (TBD)
- Committee discussion focused on understanding issues and implications of possible interim vs. final tank closure, evaluation of these issues in comparison to HAB values, and identification of next steps for committee work on this issue (30 min.)

3:30 pm

Break

3:45 pm

National Environmental Policy Act IssuesWorkplan Guidance

Statement of Policy Issue: The EIS process provides the framework for work required to achieve tank clean-up

Issue Manager: Doug Huston

Issue manager assignment

- Identify needs for additional NEPA analysis to support new balance of mission approach
- Identify additional NEPA workplan “statement of policy issues” and “essential policy questions” to focus current and future committee work

Purpose of Agenda Item: *To identify and discuss additional NEPA analysis required to support new balance of mission approach, including assessment and possible implementation of new alternatives and technologies*

- Issue manager framing of issues (10 min.) – Doug Huston (requested)
- Overview of NEPA needs
 - DOE-ORP (10 min.)
 - Regulatory perspectives (10 min.) – Suzanne Dahl, Ecology; EPA
- Committee discussion focused on understanding upcoming needs for additional NEPA analysis and identification of next steps for committee work on this issue (15 min.)

4:30 pm

Work Planning and Wrap-up

- Work planning and review of issue manager assignments
- Identify upcoming needs for committee conference calls and/or meetings (potential need to reschedule February 18th call, if necessary)
- Identify committee representatives for Executive Issues Management Group conference call on February 21

5:00 pm

Adjourn

Handouts:

January 28 draft meeting summary (joint TWC/BCC meeting)
Task Waste Committee work plan